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Cops: The domestic guardians of our great democracy

Statement of Alderman Bob Donovan July 8, 2016

Last night's tragedy in Dallas, where shooters opened fire on police officers during an otherwise peaceful protest, is simply despicable.

Throughout this week, I have been closely following the events across the nation and the protests that sprang up in cities everywhere. In most cases, they were peaceful—until this erupted. I went to bed with the realization that officers had been killed, and I woke up this morning to learn that five were dead and many others had been shot.

Our prayers go out to all the family members of these officers, and to officers across America. Only they realize the challenge inherent in putting on a police uniform every day. Most of us wouldn't even want the job, let alone have the ability to qualify for it.

This tragedy especially hits home for me, as I have family members in law enforcement.

While I realize that many communities across America, including our own here in Milwaukee, have a ways to go to improve police-community relations, how about we start with this? My suggestion to certain individuals is, the next time you see a cop, there's no need to spit at them, there's no need to swear at them, there's no need to chant catchy slogans.

How about you just say thank you?

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